

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the 2 paragraph abstract at page 21 of the specification with the following one paragraph abstract:

It is desirable to have selective markers suitable for screening of thermophilic bacteria such as *Thermus thermophilus*. *T. thermophilus* are good research materials for investigating the interrelation between enzyme structures and functions since they are stable at extreme pH, crystallize easily and are easy-to-handle. Novel mutants of *Staphylococcus aureus* kanamycin nucleotidyltransferase with markedly improved thermostability are disclosed, as well as a selective marker using the same, and a screening method for thermophilic bacteria such as *T. thermophilus* using said selective marker.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com